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births, being one per thousand above the rate in the preceding year, but 10 per thousand below the average of the 10 years 1908-17. It is one of the four lowest rates hitherto recorded. The provisional figures for 1919 show a rate of 89 per thousand births, or two per thousand births below that of 1916, which at 91 per thousand was the lowest hitherto returned.

The estimate of the total civilian population for the whole of England and Wales is given as 13,777,100 civilian males and 19,697,600 females, making a total of 33,474,700 persons. The marriages during the year numbered 287,163, and the marriage rates of 51.9 for males and 41.0 for females represented a considerable advance on the low records of the previous year.

The births registered during 1918 numbered 662,661, or 5,685 fewer than in the previous year, during which 210,750 fewer births had been registered than in 1914, while the deaths of 611,861 were registered during the same period. Of the deaths, 314,704 were of males and 297,157 of females. The males included 24,033 non-civilians.

#### THE WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF GOLD

THE Geological Survey has given out some preliminary figures showing the promotion of gold throughout the world in 1919. The production in the United States was \$58,285,196; Canada is reported to have produced \$14,687,000; India \$10,028,000; Australia (not including New Zealand or the Islands), \$29,268,000; the Transvaal, \$171,640,123; Rhodesia and West Africa, \$18,631,070. There was a probably large decrease in the production of gold in Russia and Siberia in 1919. Some increase was probably made in the output of Central America and South America, which however, was doubtless offset by decreases in the output of other countries. The incomplete returns now available indicate that the world's production of gold in 1919 was between \$345,000,000 and \$350,000,000. The world's production in 1918 amounted to \$380,924,500.

The survey further states that information

received during the first six months of 1920 indicated a still further decrease in the production of gold in the United States and that the output for the year will probably be less than \$50,000,000. The production in Alaska, Colorado, California, Oregon and Montana will be much less in 1920 than it was in 1919, because water is very short for placer mining and many stamp mills are closed. Canada as a whole may increase its output, although the production of the Yukon districts will be smaller than last year. The output of Russia can not be estimated. That of Australia will show a decrease. That of South Africa and South America will probably show no radical decrease. According to the survey the indications are that the decrease in the world's production of gold in 1920 will not be so great as it was in 1919.

#### PROFESSOR VAN BENEDEN OF LIÉGE

A LIFE-SIZED bronze statue of Van Beneden, professor of zoology in the University of Liège, who died four years ago, was unveiled on May 24. The statue stands at the entrance to the Zoological Institute where Van Beneden worked and taught for over thirty years. We learn from the *British Medical Journal* that the ceremony was attended by a large number of his old colleagues, by representatives of other Belgian universities and scientific societies, and by delegates from British universities. Both King Albert and the Belgian Parliament were represented. The representatives of the British universities were Professor Sarolea (Edinburgh), Sir Leslie Mackenzie, of the Local Government Board of Scotland (Aberdeen), and Professor Sir Thomas Oliver (Durham). Professor R. W. Hegner, represented the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. When fully mustered the company marched in procession to the class-room where Van Beneden had taught and in which was gathered a large number of old and present students and his widow and relatives. The Rector was in the chair. Dr. Nolf, professor of pathology in the university, delivered a memorial address, during which a beautifully executed bronze mural tablet, pronounced to

be an excellent likeness, was unveiled. Professor Gravis (botany), M. Lameere (president of the Belgian Royal Academy of Science), Professor Van der Stricht (Ghent), Professor Sarolea (Edinburgh), and Professor Ditmas, successor to the late professor, delivered addresses containing references to the epoch-making researches of the great embryologist and his work upon fecundation and cell reproduction. The speaker who drew the greatest applause was Van der Stricht, who, while pleading for the University of Ghent, insisted upon its retaining its French character as opposed to a purely Flemish institution. When he had finished his address the Rector, rising amidst the applause of the audience, kissed the distinguished Fleming upon both cheeks. Afterwards the audience proceeded to the front entrance, where the full-sized statue in bronze was unveiled. A luncheon, attended by several of the delegates and the rector of the university, followed.

#### THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

THE board of scientific directors of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research announces the election of Dr. Winthrop J. V. Osterhout as a member of the board of scientific directors to succeed Dr. Theodore C. Janeway, deceased.

The following promotions and appointments are announced:

- Dr. Alfred E. Cohn, hitherto an associate member in medicine, has been made a member.
- Dr. Peyton Rous, hitherto an associate member in pathology and bacteriology, has been made a member.
- Dr. Donald D. Van Slyke, hitherto an associate member in chemistry, has been made a member.
- Dr. Francis G. Blake, hitherto an associate in medicine, has been made an associate member.
- Dr. John H. Northrop, hitherto an associate in experimental biology, has been made an associate member.
- Dr. James H. Austin, hitherto an assistant in medicine, has been made an associate.
- Dr. Harry W. Graybill, hitherto an assistant in the department of animal pathology, has been made an associate.

Dr. William C. Stadie, hitherto an assistant in medicine, has been made an associate.

The following have been made assistants:

- Miss Helen L. Fales (chemistry).
- Dr. Philip D. McMaster (pathology and bacteriology).
- Miss Marion L. Orcutt (animal pathology).

The following appointments are announced:

- Dr. Harry Clark, associate member in pathology and bacteriology.
- Dr. Pierre L. du Nouy, associate member in experimental surgery.
- Dr. Paul H. de Kruif, associate in pathology and bacteriology.
- Dr. Lloyd D. Felton, associate in pathology and bacteriology.
- Dr. Rudolf W. Glaser, associate in the department of animal pathology.
- Dr. Carl A. L. Binger, assistant in medicine.
- Dr. Ralph H. Boots, assistant in medicine.
- Dr. Louis A. Mikeska, assistant in chemistry.
- Dr. Charles P. Miller, Jr., assistant in medicine.
- Dr. Eugene V. Powell, assistant in X-ray.
- Dr. Leslie T. Webster, assistant in pathology and bacteriology.
- Dr. Goronwy O. Broun, fellow in pathology and bacteriology.
- Miss Katharine M. Dougherty, fellow in pathology and bacteriology.
- Mr. Thomas J. Le Blanc, fellow in pathology and bacteriology.
- Dr. Giovanni Martinaglia, fellow in the department of animal pathology.
- Mr. Henry S. Simms, fellow in chemistry.

Dr. Marshall A. Barber, hitherto an associate in pathology and bacteriology, has accepted a position with the U. S. Public Health Service to do field work in the Malaria Research Laboratory, Memphis, Tennessee.

Miss Angelia M. Courtney, hitherto an associate in chemistry, has accepted an appointment to do chemical work in the Medical School of the University of Toronto.

Dr. Carl Ten Broeck, hitherto an associate in the Department of Animal Pathology, has accepted an appointment as associate professor of bacteriology with the Peking Union Medical College.

Mr. Earl P. Clark, hitherto an assistant in